Allocation to Punjab under Indira Awas Yojana

1321. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the Central allocations to the Government of Punjab under Indira Awas Yojana during the years 1994-95, 1995-96 and 1996-97;

(b) whether it is a fact that the above allocations of funds have been very low;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps being taken by Government to increase the Central allocation of funds for the purpose during the next year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) The Central allocations (inclusive of 20% State share) under Indira Awas Yojana to Government of Punjab during the years 1994-95 to 1996-97 are as follows:-

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1994-95	169.93
1995-96	608.56
1996-97	695.30

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

(d) The allocation under Indira Awas Yojana are fixed on year to year basis.

Achievements of Jawahar Rozgar Yojana

1322. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the year of introduction of the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY);

(b) the salient features thereof;

(c) the achievements made under JRY in each State since then; and

(d) the steps taken to make the scheme more effective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) April, 1989.

(b) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) is a Centrally sponsored scheme implemented in the rural areas on the 80.20 cost sharing basis between the Centre and the States to generate additional gainful employment for unemployend and underemployed persons both men and women and create community and social assets to improve the overall quality of life in the rural areas. The target groups under the scheme ar SCs/STs, fixed freed bonded labourers, women and other weaker sections.

(c) Details are given at Annexure. *[See Appendix* 128, *Annexure No.* 36]

(d) JRY is continuously monitored in all the States through monthly, quarterly and annual progress reports. The implementation is also monitored through State Level Coordination Committee. The rural employment programmes are also monitored through Area Officer Scheme. Instructions have also been issued to the State Governments to constitute vigilance and monitoring Committee at the State, district, block and village levels.

Indo-Oman Submarine Pipeline

1323. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India was to sue the Omanese Government for breach of trust for backing out of its commitment to the $5-billion Indo-Oman submarine pipeline;

(b) if so, when was the agreement reached at between the two countries, by when was the pipeline to be laid and whether Government paid any advance to the Government of Oman for the project; and if so, the amount thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in laying down the pipeline and the action taken by Government to get the agreement materialised at the earliest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SH. T.R. BAALU): (a) No such proposal is under consideration of the Government.

(b) an Agreement on Principal Terms was signed with Oman in September; 1994. No advance was paid by the Government to Oman for the project.

(c) The Government is in touch with the Sultanate of Oman to ascertain the reasons for the delay in the feasibility study and for expediting the project.

Winding up of Major Public Sector Projects

1324. SHRI SATISH AGARWAL: Will the Ministry of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have taken a policy decision to either with up or sell major public sector projects which have failed to take off;

(b) whether it is a fact that more than 60,000 crores of rupees will be required to complete these projects at the revised cost estimate on 1994-95, please furnish details;

(c) what does the Government propose to do to check this steep cost overrun and time overruns; and

(d) whether any action has been taken against the concerned officials, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING & PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No. Sir. In February 1996 Government accepted, in principle, the suggestions of the Group of Ministers on specific measures to cut delays in implementation of projects. One of the suggestions relates to weeding out/transferring to Joint/Private sector of the projects which are making slow progress in view of the resource crunch.

(b) No Sir. As on 31.3.1996 there were only 9 major projects (costing Rs. 100 crores and above) which had failed to take off as per the criteria suggested by the Group of Ministers and accepted by the Government i.e. where 5% of expenditure had been incurred and 60% of gestation period was over. The percentage of expenditure has been calculated taking the latest anticipated cost. The percentage of gestation period has been calculated taking the gestation period from the date of original sanction to the latest anticipated date of completion. The balance amount required for completion of these projects is Rs. 3465.25 crores as per their latest approved cost.

(c) Details of the steps taken to check the steep time and cost overrun in the implementation of projects, is enclosed as Statement. *(See* below)

(d) Time and cost overruns are the net result of several factors affecting a project. A number of the being outside the control of the project authorities, it has not been possible to pin point with certainity that any particular official is squarely responsible for the time and cost overrun in a particular project.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original estimate and implementation of projects

(i) Two-stage project approval to ensure adequate preparation, environmental and other clearances and infrastructure planning at stage I before a project is finally approved for implementation at stage II.

(ii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels. This enables the monitoring agencies to identify constraints and help management in taking remedial measures.

(iii) Indepth critical review of progress by project authorities and Administrative Ministries.

(iv) Setting up of Task Force/Empowered Committees for speedy finalisation of contract packages, solving land acquisition and other problems.

(v) Close follow up by the Department of Programme Implementation, concerned administrative Ministries and project authorities with the State Government, equipment suppliers, contractors, consultants and other concerned agencies to minimise delays.

(vi) Inter-ministrial coordination and interaction.